



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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**Your Reference:** DCR/P33696GB  
**Application No:** GB 0226514.8

14 May 2003

Dear Sirs

**Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)**

I enclose two copies of my search report and two copies of the citations.

**Plurality of invention**

I consider that your application relates to more than one invention as follows:

- [a] as defined in claims 1-42; and
- [b] as defined in claims 43-48.

My search report relates to the first invention only. If you want the other invention searched, you should file a further Patents Form 9/77.

**Publication**

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **6 April 2004**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

**Amendment/withdrawal**

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for

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publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

Yours faithfully

Dr Albert Mthupha  
Examiner



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**Application No:** GB 0226514.8

**Examiner:** Dr Albert Mthupha

**Claims searched:** 1-42

**Date of search:** 13 May 2003

## Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance	
A		EP 1129776 A1	ENI, see Examples 1, 2, 3 (& Tables 4, 5, 6), Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7.
A		EP 0736326 A1	SASTECH, see whole document, note particularly page 3 lines 13-15.

### Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>v</sup>:

B1E

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup>:

B01D; B01J; C07C

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

ONLINE : EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI.